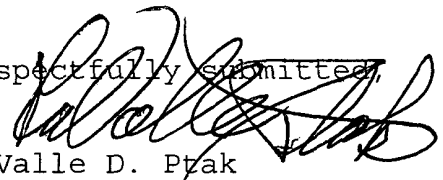


REMARKS

The claims presently appearing in this application, as amended, are the same as those presented after the Final Office Action in the above identified parent application. Independent Claim 1 has been amended. New Claim 17 is presented as previously allowed Claim 4, rewritten in independent form. Claims 5, 6 and 7 are now dependent, directly and through one another, on new independent Claim 17. Claims 8, 9 and 14 to 16 have been withdrawn from consideration; and Claims 2 to 4 and 10 to 13 have been canceled.

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims now appearing in this application are allowable; and a formal Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: 7/11/03